

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 SSM-03 IO-13 ACDA-07 /080 W  
-----017789 232013Z /41

R 231410Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8839  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4778

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, PLO, KU, IS  
SUBJECT: KUWAIT REPRESENTATION CONCERNING RECENT ISRAELI ACTIONS  
IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

1. I MET AUG. 23 WITH MFA UNDERSECRETARY RASHID AL-RASHID  
AT HIS REQUEST FOR THE PURPOSE OF HEARING A GOK STATEMENT  
CONCERNING RECENT ISRAELI ACTIONS AUTHORIZING THREE NEW  
SETTLEMENTS IN WEST BANK AND EXTENSION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES  
TO POPULATION OF OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

2. ACCORDING TO AL-RASHID, GOK SAW THESE ISRAELI ACTIONS AS  
LEADING TO A RETURN OF TENSION TO THE MIDDLE EAST AREA. KUWAIT  
BELIEVED THAT PRIME MINISTER BEGIN WAS PLAYING WITH THIS VERY  
EXPLODIVE SITUATION IN ORDER TO CONSOLIDATE HIS INTERNAL POLIT-  
ICAL POSITION. GOK DID NOT BELIEVE THAT BEGIN'S ACTIONS WOULD  
SERVE TO LEAD TOWARD PEACE NOR TO GUIDE HIS PEOPLE  
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TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE REALITIES OF THE SITUATION.  
KUWAIT BELIEVE THAT SUCH ISRAELI STEPS COULD ONLY  
LEAD TO ARAB COUNTER-ACTIONS WHICH WOULD CAUSE A TURMOIL  
IN THE AREA, A SITUATION WHICH NO SANE GOVERNMENT SEEKS.

3. AL-RASHID EXPRESSED THE GOK'S HOPE THAT THE US,  
OVER AND ABOVE WHAT IT HAS ALREADY DONE, WILL USE ITS

GOOD OFFICES IN ORDER TO PREVENT FURTHER IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS BY ISRAEL. KUWAITIS WERE EXTREMELY WORRIED ABOUT THE DEVELOPING SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THEY FEARED THAT THE MODERATE POLICIES CURRENTLY SUPPORTED BY ARAB LEADERS WOULD RUN INTO THE OBSTACLE OF THE FRUSTRATION OF THE ARAB POPULATION. THIS SITUATION WILL, OF COURSE, HAVE ITS IMPACT ON ARAB LEADERS WHO WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO FOLLOW THE MODERATE COURSE THEY WOULD PREFER.

3. AL-RASHID CONCLUDED HIS PRESENTATION BY NOTING THAT THE RECENT VISIT OF THE SECRETARY HAD DEMONSTRATED QUITE CLEARLY WHO WAS ON THE SIDE OF PEACE AND WHO WAS NOT LISTENING TO THE CALL OF WISDOM.

5. I EXPLAINED THE FIRM AND NEGATIVE US REACTION TO THESE ISRAELI MOVES AND, HAVING ANTICIPATED THAT REBK OF THE MEETING, GAVE RASHID AL-RASHID A COPY OF THE FORMAL STATEMENT ISSUED BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HODDING CARTER ON AUGUST 18. I NOTED THAT THIS POSITION WAS EXPLAINED BY UNDERSECRETARY HABIB TO THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON AND BY AMBASSADOR LEWIS TO PRIME MINISTER BEGIN IN TEL AVIV. I ASSURED THE UNDERSECRETARY THAT PRES. CARTER AND SECRETARY VANCE WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE INTENSIVE

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BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS WHICH WERE DUE TO TAKE PLACE IN NEW YORK DURING THE UNGA SESSION, WITH THE HOPE THAT THESE WOULD LEAD TO A NARROWING OF DIFFERENCES AND TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BASIS ON WHICH A GENEVA CONFERENCE COULD BE CONVENED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.

6. RASHID AL-RASHID REFERRED TO US EFFORTS TO OBTAIN PLO ACCEPTANCE OF UN RES. 242 AND STATED THAT WHAT ISRAEL IS DOING NOW UNDERMINES UN RES. 242 AS THE BASIS FOR THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. HE POINTED OUT HOW DIFFICULT IT WAS TO TRY TO CONVINCE THE PLO TO ACCEPT UN RES. 242 WHILE ISRAEL WAS TAKING ACTIONS AND MAKING STATEMENTS WHICH DENIED THE VERY ELEMENTS CONTAINED IN THAT RESOLUTION. SYMPATHETIC ARABS FOND THAT THEY HAD NO LONGER ANY BASIS FOR ARGUMENT WITH THE PLO ON THIS MATTER AS THE RESULT OF ISRAEL'S MOVES.

7. I EXPRESSED THE PERSONAL OPINION THAT PLO ACCEPTANCE OF UN RES. 242 WOULD HAVE AN EVEN GREATER IMPACT AT THIS TIME IN THE LIGHT OF THE RECENT ISRAELI ACTIONS AND SUGGESTED THAT THE GOK URGE THE PLO TO CONSIDER

THIS MATTER VERY CAREFULLY.

8. COMMENT: SINCE I SAW THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR WAITING  
TO SEE RASHID AL-RASHID WHEN I CONCLUDED MY MEETING  
WITH HIM, I ASSUME THAT THIS GOK REPRESENTATION IS  
BEING MADE TO A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE  
PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL.  
MAESTRONE

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## Message Attributes

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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009